

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 1-2, 6, 10, 13-16, and 18-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0025842 of Saccomanno ("Saccomanno") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,621,832 of Yokoyama ("Yokoyama").

Claims 3-4, 17, and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saccomanno in view of Yokoyama and further in view of Optics Guide 5 (Melles Griot) ("Melles Griot").

Claims 5, 7-9 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 11-12, 22, 26-27, 30-31 have been allowed. Therefore, the following remarks are directed to the rejected and objected claims.

Status of Claims

Claims 5, 7, 16, 22, 26-27 and 30-31 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 7, 10 and 13-16 have been amended. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-4, 6 and 17-21 have been canceled, without prejudice, by this amendment.

Claim Rejections

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's assertions. Applicant does not admit that the cited references are prior art and reserves the right to swear behind these references at a later date. Applicant is canceling some of the currently rejected claims and amending others in order to facilitate issuance of the claims that are indicated as allowable or objectionable.

It is submitted that the claims as currently amended are either indicated as allowable; have been amended to be rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims to be in condition for allowance; or have been amended to be dependent on an allowable claim.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

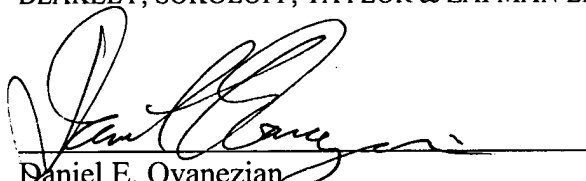
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 5/4, 2006


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